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expectations would be great expectations of this body for the next two years. Individually, each of us is no more, or no less important than the people we represent. Collectively, when we meet officially as members of the Legislature representing the people who put their trust in us, we have as high a responsibility as is available in a representative democracy and, certainly, the most responsible position that any human being can be trusted with in a sovereign state. My expectations of this body are that we would begin to rebuild and reenforce the image of the Legislature as we conduct the business of the State of Nebraska. My expectations are that we would approach each and every issue seriously and with a great amount of thought, that our floor procedures would be formal, that our contact with the public in our committee hearings would also be with the formality of the understanding that these are the people that put our trust in us, their trust in us. So I would close my few comments this morning that my expectation further is that without regard for the person you select in the next ballot that we, as representatives of the people of State of Nebraska, individually and collectively conduct ourselves in a manner that is reflective of that trust and of that position of honor. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Madam President, members of the body, first let me comment. I think George made some very appropriate comments about the body, and I also wanted to speak about the body, our image, our procedures, in my brief remarks, and ask for your indulgence a little as I do so. First thing I'd like to do though is indicate to you my very profound thanks to the members of the body who allowed me to function as your Speaker during these last 12 months. It was a long, difficult session. I think we came through it in good shape, and I'd like to think that I contributed somewhat to the level of productivity that we all exhibited last session, and the ability that we had, as a body, to begin to come together on some of the more critical issues surrounding our state. We rarely talk about our institution here on the floor. I think that is one of our failings, that over the past several years we have maybe become less committed to the Unicameral, the nonpartisan Unicameral as an institution, and maybe have become a little more concerned about our own individual agendas. There is an old story in higher education. You know in higher education battles for division chairmanships and deanships and those positions become